



PRESS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture - Washington Agricultural Statistics Service
Post Office Box 609 - Olympia, Washington 98507 - Phone: (360) 902-1940

Released on January 12, 2006

Contact: Chris Messer (360) 902-1940

nass-wa@nass.usda.gov

Washington's 2006 Winter Wheat Seedings Unchanged from 2005

OLYMPIA, Wash., January 12, 2006-- Washington winter wheat producers have seeded an estimated 1.85 million acres of winter wheat for harvest in 2006. This is unchanged from 2005 despite seeding beginning late and some early concerns about moisture supplies. Nationally, the planted area for harvest in 2006 is estimated at 41.4 million acres, up 2 percent from 2005. Winter wheat seeded in the Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon and Idaho) totaled 3.40 million acres, 1 percent below the 2005 crop but 1 percent above the 2004 crop. Idaho growers seeded 750,000 acres, compared with 770,000 acres last year, and Oregon farmers seeded 800,000 acres compared with 830,000 the previous year.

Seeding in the U. S. began last August and was behind the 5-year average pace because of a lack of moisture in the southern Great Plains during September and much of October. Precipitation during mid-October relieved moisture concerns somewhat in major producing areas and allowed seeding to advance ahead of the 5-year average during the latter part of the month as mild and dry weather conditions prevailed. Nearly all of the U. S. acreage was seeded by December 1 with the exception of some intended acres in the Southeast and California. The U. S. winter wheat crop condition at the end of November was rated 52 percent good to excellent compared with 76 percent last year.

Hard Red Winter (HRW) wheat seeded area is about 29.9 million acres, down 1 percent from 2005. Soft Red Winter (SRW) area, at about 7.3 million acres, is up 19 percent from last year. White Winter wheat seeded area totals 4.2 million acres, down 1 percent from 2005.

To access the entire release, including the complete narrative and tables point to http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Washington/Publications/Current_News_Release/wwhtseed.pdf

#

Find agricultural statistics for Washington State at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Washington

Winter Wheat: Area Seeded, By State & United States, 2004-2006

State	Crop			2006/2005
	2004	2005	2006	
	1,000 Acres			Percent
Alabama	120	100	100	100
Arizona	5	5	4	80
Arkansas	670	220	370	168
California	560	495	430	87
Colorado	2,300	2,550	2,400	94
Delaware	50	52	48	92
Florida	18	18	18	100
Georgia	330	280	300	107
Idaho	750	770	750	97
Illinois	920	630	860	137
Indiana	450	360	460	128
Iowa	28	20	25	125
Kansas	10,000	10,000	10,200	102
Kentucky	530	390	390	100
Louisiana	180	110	110	100
Maryland	160	155	180	116
Michigan	660	600	610	102
Minnesota	27	20	30	150
Mississippi	160	70	60	86
Missouri	1,050	590	1,000	169
Montana	1,900	2,150	2,000	93
Nebraska	1,850	1,850	1,750	95
Nevada	6	8	16	200
New Jersey	28	28	23	82
New Mexico	490	450	440	98
New York	105	100	130	130
North Carolina	600	560	550	98
North Dakota	245	310	180	58
Ohio	920	860	990	115
Oklahoma	6,200	5,700	5,800	102
Oregon	820	830	800	96
Pennsylvania	140	150	160	107
South Carolina	190	170	140	82
South Dakota	1,650	1,550	1,350	87
Tennessee	400	240	300	125
Texas	6,300	5,500	5,800	105
Utah	130	145	135	93
Virginia	210	180	200	111
Washington	1,800	1,850	1,850	100
West Virginia	8	7	8	114
Wisconsin	240	200	250	125
Wyoming	150	160	150	94
United States	43,350	40,433	41,367	102

1/ Updated from "Small Grains 2005 Summary" released September 30, 2005.